

Although Garrett Park has had an archives since the community was developed in the late 19th century, the official Garrett Park Archives were formally created by the Town Council at its meeting of July 12, 2010 (Ordinance 2010-03: Addition of Section 113 to the Garrett Park Code of Ordinances “Garrett Park Archives and Archives Committee”), The ordinance provided for an archives advisory committee, and the seven initial committee members were appointed by Mayor Chris Keller at the Council meeting of January 2011. The official name of the Committee is “The Barbara Shidler Archives Committee” in recognition of the valuable contribution of Ms. Shidler, who was the town archivist from 2003 to 2009.

Members of the committee are appointed for three year terms from among citizens who have lived in Garrett Park for at least one year and “who are qualified by special interest, knowledge, experience or training in such fields as library science, records conservation, database compilation and maintenance, historic preservation, oral history or complementary disciplines.” Town Councilman Jack Mandel is the Council’s liaison to the committee.

The archives contain the rich and varied documentary history of Garrett Park from its original development by the Metropolitan Investment and Building Company of Montgomery County in 1886, through its incorporation by the state of Maryland as a town in 1898 and on to today. The collection includes thousands of documents, pictures, maps, oral history records, memorabilia and other items that preserve that history and form a mosaic of the people and events that have shaped our community. The archives are open to Town citizens and outside researchers with the guidance of the Town Office and the committee.

The committee advises the Town Council with respect to all issues involving or affecting the archives. It also undertakes education initiatives to advance the understanding and appreciation of the archives and on other historical matters of general interest in the Town.

Members as of March 2011

Charles Snyder, Chairman

Nancy Walz, Secretary

Marian Green

Nancy Schwartz

Glenda Ingham

Kay Hager

Jim Agenbroad

Jack Mandel, ex officio